Dewan's reply.—Every time a representation on this subject was made, the matter was referred to the High Court who have, so far, not been convinced of the necessity of a separate Munsiff's Court for Changanacherry. In such a matter, the Government feel bound to accept the opinion of the High Court.

42. Establishment of Village Panchayat Courts in each taluk.

Mr. K. Chidambarathanu Pillai (Member, Tovala Taluk) said that the litigants were put to great trouble and inconvenience in conducting petty suits for small amounts in the Munsiffs' Courts. Though the Dewan's opening address at the last session of the Assembly contained a promise to open more Village Panchayat Courts, nothing had been done for the establishment of such courts. He prayed for the opening of a Village Panchayat Court in each taluk. With reference to Nanjanad, the Member suggested the desirability of dividing the taluks of Tovala and Agasteeswaram into 3 or 4 convenient blocks and of providing each block with a court.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

43. Need for the appointment of a *Kazi* in each of the principal Towns.

Mr. Gnaniyar Sayyid Taha Sahib (Member, Nominated) said that formerly *kazis* were the judges who settled all religious disputes among the Mahomedans. In British India, *kazis* were appointed to assist judges with their opinion in respect of suits relating to religious matters among Mahomedans. Persons so appointed were well versed in Mahomedan law and religion and their opinions on matters pertaining to religious rites, marriage ceremonies, endowments, partition, &c., were very valuable. He added that, if *kazis* were appointed here also, they would be of great help to Government in deciding religious disputes which often culminated in the closing of mosques to the great mortification of the learned and religious men in the community. He, therefore, prayed that *kazis*, with the same powers as in British India, might be appointed in the important towns of the State.

In answer to the Dewan's query, the Member said that the community would be willing to have a law enacted on the lines of the British Indian Act XII of 1880 on the subject.

Dewan's reply.—The Member's suggestion will be considered.

(4) Registration.

44. Desirability of amending Sections 25, 33, 59 and 60 of the Registration Regulation, II of 1087.

Mr. N. C. Kesava Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Neyyattinkara) explained the practice obtaining at present in the matter of granting copies of registered non-testamentary documents and also the difficulties experienced now. The suggestion of the Member to obviate the difficulties was to revive the old practice under which the party was asked to present a true copy of the document along with the original. He requested that section 25 be amended suitably.

Section 33 related to testamentary documents and what was urged in regard to section 25 would apply to section 33 also.

Sections 59 and 60 had reference to the practice of sending a memo of documents. If a document relating to a property situate within the sub-district of Tovala happened to be registered for some reason or other at Parur, the Sub-Registrar of the latter station in whose office the document was being registered, sent a copy of the memo to the Sub-Registrar within whose sub-district the property was situate. The difficulty in regard to such an arrangement was that, if the executant who happened to be a native of Tovala and who, for some reason had to execute the document at Parur, wanted a copy of the document after he returned to Tovala, he had to travel all the way to Parur. That caused a good deal of inconvenience to the party. The Member's prayer was that, in all such cases, a true copy of the document be ordered to be sent to the

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Sub-Registrar within whose jurisdiction the property was situate, so that the party concerned might obtain a copy from the latter officer. If that was not possible, he requested that arrangements might be made by which the Sub-Registrar in whose jurisdiction the property was situate should obtain a copy and supply it to the applicant on the latter's application and at his cost.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

IV. PRODUCTION.

(1) AGRICULTURE.—(*Continued*).

45. Agriculture in Travancore.

Mr. N. Kunjen Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Colachel) pleaded for an additional allotment being allowed to the Agricultural Department annually. The Member then made the following suggestions:—

(1) The Agricultural Loans Regulation should be amended so as to enable the ryots to get loans promptly and on easier terms.

(2) It was necessary to start Agricultural Co-operative Societies and allow a special allotment for that purpose.

(3) The Director of Agriculture should be allowed sufficient funds for the establishment of Agricultural Schools in different parts of the State.

(4) Greater facilities should be afforded to the people for finding their requirements of green manure and other agricultural necessaries.

(5) Agricultural Exhibitions should be conducted by the Government annually during the session of the Popular Assembly.

(6) Experimental and Demonstration Farms should be established in select places in South Travancore.

(7) Experimental cultivation should be carried on in the undisposed-of tank beds at the disposal of the Government instead of in private lands as at present and the seeds obtained from those lands sold to the ryots.

Mr. H. Janardana Iyer (Member, Pathanapuram Taluk) submitted that the most important activities of the ryot were the cultivation of the cocoanut, pepper, arecanut and tapioca, and cattle-breeding. No plant was more useful and remunerative than the cocoanut. It would, therefore, be of great use if a thorough scientific investigation of all soils of the various localities of Travancore were made and charts and maps prepared of each taluk, showing the places where the cocoanut palm would thrive best. In spite of the large fund of experience the ryot had, he was still groping in the dark for want of such a map or chart. The results of the investigation should be published in the Vernacular language, so that the empirical knowledge of the ryot might be turned to scientific methods. In regard to seed selection, there were several empirical theories and dogmas which were believed in and acted upon by the ryot. It was desirable to lay down definite scientific principles for the selection of the seed. As regards manuring also, there was considerable wastage at present. No doubt, the Agricultural Department had been doing much useful work in opening the eyes of the ryots. But his view was that much greater benefit would flow, if the Experimental Farms were situated in villages and if their number were increased. It would be a distinct advantage to the people if the Experimental Farms and Manure Depots had been started side by side. In view of the fact that it was impossible to open farms throughout the State, a "Ryots' Day" might, with advantage, be held to which the ryots in the neighbourhood should be invited, and shows and demonstrations should be held in different kinds of agricultural operations, such as exhibition of new products, irrigation, &c. There was again the cocoanut pest problem to be tackled in all its aspects, such as *mandapuzhu* (മണ്ടപ്പുഴു), beetle, &c. The Member then explained how the cocoanut trees in his garden were affected and were eventually ruined by the pest.

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